

## Message Text

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17  
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05

TRSE-00 OMB-01 SAB-01 ACDA-07 IO-13 /084 W

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R 091945Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7732  
AMEMBASSY PANAMA  
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA  
AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES  
AMEMBASSY CARACAS  
AMEMBASSY KINGSTON  
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ  
AMEMBASSY LIMA  
AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE  
AMEMBASSY QUITO  
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE  
AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR  
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO  
USCINCSO CZ

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 7807

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR, MILI, PN, BR  
SUBJ: PANAMA TREATY BRIEFING TEAM

REF: BRASILIA 7421, PANAMA 5019

1. PANAMANIAN TREATY NEGOTIATING TEAM VISITED BRASILIA FOR BRIEFINGS SEPT 2 AND TEAM CHIEF JUAN ANTONIO TACK WAS RECEIVED BY GOB FONMIN SILVEIRA. CHIEF OF FOREIGN MINISTRY'S NORTH AND CENTRAL AMERICAN DIVISION CONFIRMED THAT TEAM ALSO BRIEFED BRAZIL'S JOINT MILITARY STAFF (EMFA), BUT LEVEL OF BRAZILIAN OFFICERS ATTENDING WAS NOT SPECIFIED. HE ADDED THAT GOB VIEWED TEAM VISIT SOLELY AS INFORMATIONAL EFFORT BY  
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PANAMANIAN AND ACCEPTANCE OF BRIEFINGS CONSTITUTED NO

CHANGE IN GOB POLICY TOWARDS CANAL ZONE ISSUE. GOB CONTINUED TO ADHERE TO PRINCIPLES ENUNCIATED IN OAS RESOLUTIONS RE CANAL, WHICH BOTH BRAZIL AND USG HAVE SUPPORTED, AND TO US-PANAMANIAN EIGHT-POINT AGREEMENT.

2. PRESS QUOTED TACK AS SATISFIED WITH TEAM'S CONTACTS IN BRASILIA AND BRAZIL'S "TOTAL SUPPORT FOR PANAMA'S CLAIMS." TACK STRESSED TO JOURNALISTS THAT GOP-GOB CONTACTS HAD INTENSIFIED LATELY AS RESULT OF MESSAGES EXCHANGED BY TORRIJOS AND GEISEL. RE SUBSTANCE OF CANAL NEGOTIATIONS, TACK INDICATED GOP PREFERRED PEACEFUL SOLUTION, BUT IF NECESSARY, WOULD SEEK OTHER MEANS TO SOLVE PROBLEM AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME. HE ADDED PANAMA WOULD PRESS THE CANAL ISSUE IN THE NEXT UNGA.

3. JORNAL DE BRASILIA IN MIX OF NEWS AND COMMENTARY SAID SILVEIRA HAD GUARANTEED TACK "BRAZIL'S TOTAL SUPPORT IN ALL CLAIMS AGAINST THE US FOR TERMINATION OF THE ILLEGAL OCCUPATION OF THE CANAL ZONE." ARTICLE HEDGED HOWEVER BY INDICATING THERE STILL SOME QUESTION ABOUT DEGREE OF GOB SUPPORT FOR PANAMA, AND ACKNOWLEDGED GOB SUPPORT WOULD DEPEND UPON METHODS PANAMA USED TO ACHIEVE CONTROL OVER THE CANAL ZONE.

4. PRESS MADE NO REFERENCE TO TEAM BRIEFING EMFA.

5. COMMENT: RE PRESS SPECULATION ABOUT TOTAL BRAZILIAN SUPPORT FOR GOP, ORIGIN OF THAT PHRASING PROBABLY TACK. CHIEF OF NORTH AND CENTRAL AMERICAN DIVISION EMPHASIZED IT FOREIGN MINISTRY POLICY NOT TO PARTICIPATE IN PRESS CONFERENCES HELD BY FOREIGN DIGNITARIES HERE, THUS MINISTRY NOT AWARE OF WHAT TACK ACTUALLY TOLD PRESS AND CONSEQUENTLY MADE NO EFFORT TO INFLUENCE HOW PRESS REPORTED STATEMENTS. MINISTRY STANDS, HOWEVER, ON ASSURANCES THAT POLICY RE CANAL HAS NOT CHANGED. END COMMENT.  
CRIMMINS

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, MILI, OTRA, PN, BR, PQ  
**To:** STATE PANAMA  
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